Mr. K. T. Bhashyam.—

How long has it been engaging the attention of Government?

Dewan.—

There is no question of attention, but it was a matter of funds. We will try to have it as early as possible.

MR. S. V. GURUMURTHIACHARYA (Minority Interest):—

Q.—65. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) What is the total number of boys and girls of each of the following communities that were receiving instruction in the schools and colleges of the State during 1926-27:—

(1) Adikarnatakas, (2) Mohamedans, (3) Christians, (4) Ursus, (5) Kurubars and (6) Visvakarmas?

(*b*) What is the amount of scholarship given to the students of each of these communities in each of the different classes?

(*c*) Whether the non-award of scholarships this year to the students of the said communities, who were scholarship-holders last year and who passed their examination and got promoted to the higher classes will not hinder their progress?

(*d*) What are the reasons for doing so?

(*e*) Will the Government consider it desirable to make satisfactory arrangements for the continuance of scholarships to such of the boys and girls as were already in receipt of scholarships during the previous year, so that there may be no impediment to the further education of these poor students?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENTS.—

A.—65. (*a*) and (*b*) Statements furnishing the information required are placed on the table. (*Vide* Appendix XIII.)

(*c*), (*d*) and (*e*) The number of scholarships in the Middle School grade is much larger than that in the High School grade. It is therefore not possible to continue in the higher grades the scholarships of all the pupils who were getting them in the lower grade.

Further, the allotment of scholarships for each district

and each taluk is made every alternate year and in the re-allotment some districts and taluks may happen to get a smaller number of scholarships than in previous years as the number of scholarships is based on the number of pupils of the several communities at school in each district or taluk which may vary from time to time. Again, owing to a large number of new and deserving applicants in any particular year the scholarships already granted to less deserving pupils may happen to be cancelled such cases however forming only a very small percentage. For the above reasons it may not always be possible to assure permanent continuance of a scholarship once granted.

In the colleges the scholarships have been generally continued; students who have held backward class scholarships at schools, however, are not necessarily awarded scholarships in the colleges.

Supplementary Questions and Answers.

Mr. Gurumurthiacharya.—

What is the reason for not giving scholarships to the students of the Visvakarma community?

Third Member of Council.—

They have been given to all. No scholarships were reserved for that community separately. The students of this community have equal rights with those of other castes.

Mr Gurumurthiacharya.—

As the Visvakarma Community is the most backward, why no scholarships have been given to the members of that community?

Third Member of Council.—

The community is very small and is therefore included among other communities.

Mr. Gurumurthiacharya.—

Is the number of Christians more than that of Visvakarmas?

Third Member of Council.—

Mahomedans, Christians and Panchamas have been separated from the Hindu community.

Mr. Gurumurthiacharya.—

Where was the difficulty in separating the Visvakarma community from others?

Third Member of Council.—

We shall consider that matter. But before doing that, we have to change the rules, taking into consideration other small communities also.

Mr. Gurumurthiacharya —

Why was it not done?

Third Member of Council.—

This has been the practice for a long time. We shall consider whether the rules can be changed.

Mr. N. G. Sanjeeviah.—

Why are Kurubars included among other communities?

Third Member of Council.—

The school statistics are not maintained according to communities. What is the strength of your population?

Mr. N. G. Sanjeeviah.—

About 4 lakhs.

Third Member of Council.—

We shall consider if it is possible to show this class separately.

Mr. N. G. Sanjeeviah.—

How many girls in the Kurubar community have got scholarships?

Third Member of Council.—

All Hindu girls are included in the statement. If you want the particular information, we shall try to furnish it if you ask for it next time.

Mr. Rame Gowda.—

Is the Visvakarma a major or minor community? Do you know that other minor communities also are not getting scholarships?

Third Member of Council.—

Our information is that they are getting them.

Mr. Rame Gowda.—

If they do not get, do you make arrangements for giving them?

Third Member of Council.—

As some of them did not get scholarships, a special grant for scholarships to minor communities is being given from last year.

Mr. Nagappa Setty.—

What communities are included under "Komtis"?

Third Member of Council.—

All those that are classed as such in the census.

Mr. Nagappa Setty.—

What are Vaisyas called in the census?

Third Member of Council.—

They are called Vaisyas.

Mr. Nagappa Setty.—

If Vaisyas are called Komtis, it would be insulting.

MR. S. V. GURUMURTHIACHARYA (Minority Interest).—

Q.—66. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) Whether there is any reason for not considering Visvakarmas who number about 132,187 as a separate community?

(*b*) Whether Government have not recognised numerically smaller communities like Christians, etc., as separate communities and whether Government have not been encouraging their education and helping them with appointments also?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to encourage the members of the Visvakarma community who have not received any help till now and who are very backward by giving them loans free of interest and repayable in instalments?